

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*In re Application of:* V. K. Pai et al.

*Serial No.:* 10/551,829

*Filed:* Dec 03, 2004

*For:* Automated Method for Quantitative  
Measurement of Benefits in a  
Plurality of Self-Assessing,  
Knowledge Sharing Communities

*Customer Number:* 07617

*Attorney Docket No.:* 2639

*T.C./Art Unit:*

*Examiner:*

*Date of this document:* January 5, 2007

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FOURTH PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Applicants submit this fourth preliminary amendment, which adds one dependent claim. No additional fee is required for the newly added claim, since Applicants have already paid for 25 additional claims in the second preliminary amendment, thereby making a payment for 45 total paid claims. On the other hand, the current set of claims contains 41 claims. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 22 of this paper.